IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A method for producing a ~~respiratory~~ filter for a respirator or fan unit, said method comprising the steps of:

intermixing a granular adsorbent, absorbent, chemisorptive, or catalytic material, or activated carbon with a meltable polymer(s) to produce a mixture; [[and]]

molding the mixture in a connecting part comprising an inner surface with a complete or partial a) groove into which the mixture is formed or b) a tongue with a substantial length against which the mixture is formed; and

heating the mixture under pressure so as to make a molded piece that is adapted to work as a filter element for a respirator or fan unit and a substantially gastight connection between the molded piece and the inner surface of the connecting part so that the molded piece is formed so that it respectively engages in or at least partially encloses the groove or tongue and so that the molded piece and connecting part are stably connected to form a unit that can be operatively connected ~~as a unit~~ to a respirator or fan ~~filter~~ unit.

2. (Currently amended) A ~~respiratory~~ filter for a respirator or fan unit, the filter comprising:

a mixture of granular adsorbent, absorbent, chemisorptive, or catalytic material, or activated carbon, heated under pressure in a ~~mold~~ connecting part with a meltable polymer(s) and pressed into a molded piece within the connecting part,

wherein the ~~mold is a connecting part for a respirator or fan filter unit and~~ molded piece is adapted to work as a filter element for the respirator or fan unit and there is a substantially gastight connection between said connecting part and the pressed molded piece,

wherein the connecting part comprises an inner surface with a complete or partial groove or tongue with a substantial length which the pressed molded piece engages in, or at least partially encloses, respectively, so that the pressed molded piece and connecting part are stably connected to form a unit that can be operatively connected ~~as a unit~~ to a respirator or fan ~~filter~~ unit.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Currently amended) The ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 2 wherein the connecting part comprises a periphery with at least one discrete fastener on the periphery for a detachable substantially gastight connection to a respirator or fan ~~filter~~ unit.

5. (Currently amended) The ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 4 wherein the connection to the respirator or fan ~~filter~~ unit is direct and detachable.

6. (Currently amended) The ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 18 wherein the fasteners are designed for a snap-in or threaded connection.

7. (currently amended) The ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 2 wherein the connecting part is made of a polymer with a higher melting point than the polymer(s) of the pressed molded piece, or of cardboard or metal.

8. (currently amended) The method for producing a ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 1 further comprising the step of operatively connecting the ~~respiratory~~ filter to a respirator or fan ~~filter~~ unit.

9. (currently amended) The method for producing a ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 8 further comprising the step of providing an adapter and the step of operatively connecting the ~~respiratory~~ filter comprises operatively connecting the ~~respiratory~~ filter to the respirator or fan ~~filter~~ unit through the adapter, the adapter separate from and attachable [[with]] to the ~~respiratory~~ filter to the respirator or fan ~~filter~~ unit.

10. (currently amended) The method for producing a ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 9 wherein the step of operatively connecting the ~~respiratory~~ filter comprises the step of snap-fitting the ~~respiratory~~ filter to the adapter.

11. (cancelled).

12. (currently amended) The method for producing a ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 1 wherein the step of providing a connecting part comprises the step of providing a ring-shaped connecting part.

13. (currently amended) The ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 2 in combination with a respirator or fan filter unit wherein the ~~respiratory~~ filter is operatively connected directly to the respirator or fan ~~filter~~ unit.

14. (currently amended) The ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 2 in combination with a respirator or fan ~~filter~~ unit wherein the ~~respiratory~~ filter is operatively connected to the respirator or fan ~~filter~~ unit through an adapter, the adapter separate from and attachable with the ~~respiratory~~ filter to the respirator or fan ~~filter~~ unit.

15. (currently amended) The method for producing a ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of heating the mixture under pressure in the connecting part during the step of molding the mixture and thereafter connecting the connecting part to an adapter that is in turn releasably connected to a respirator or fan ~~filter~~ unit.

16. (currently amended) The method for producing a ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim [[1]] 12 wherein the groove or tongue extends continuously in a ring shape substantially completely around the inner surface.

17. (currently amended) The ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 2 wherein the groove or tongue extends continuously substantially completely around the inner surface.

18. (currently amended) The respiratory filter according to claim 2 wherein the connecting part comprises a periphery with at least one fastener on the periphery for a substantially gastight connection to an adapter for connecting to a respirator or fan ~~filter~~ unit.

19. (currently amended) The ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 18 in combination with an adapter that has a threaded portion to connect to a respirator or fan ~~filter~~ unit.

20. (currently amended) The ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 19 wherein the adapter surrounds the periphery of the connecting part.

21. (currently amended) The ~~respiratory~~ filter according to claim 20 wherein the periphery of the connecting part is snap-in or threadably connected to the adapter.